

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 00087 061328Z

51

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 EB-07 OES-05 INT-05 COME-00 TRSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9654

INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IR, KU

SUBJ: SHAH'S INTERVIEW WITH KUWAITI EDITOR

REF: KUWAIT 5476

1. FARSI AND FOREIGN-LANGUAGE PRESS TODAY GAVE FRONT PAGE COVERAGE TO EXTENSIVE SECTIONS OF SHAH'S INTERVIEW WITH EDITOR OF "AS-SIYASSA" WHICH APPEARED IN KUWAIT DECEMBER 28 (REFTEL). MOST PAPERS CARRIED PORTIONS OF INTERVIEW WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMMENT IN ORDER IN WHICH THEY APPEARED. KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL, HOWEVER, USED OCCASION TO TAKE ANOTHER SWIPE AT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S COMMENTS IN BUSINESS WEEK BY HIGHLIGHTING SHAH'S STATEMENT THAT A MILITARY TAKEOVER OF MIDEAST OILFIELDS "WILL NOT BE SO EASY AS IT SEEMS. IT IS, IN MY OPINION, IMPOSSIBLE. OF COURSE IT DOES NOT MEAN THAT SOME PEOPLE WILL NOT AVOID NURSING SUCH IDEAS." PERSIAN-LANGUAGE 'AYENDEGAN" ALSO GAVE THIS SUBJECT SUB-HEADLINES.

2. KAYHAN ALSO PLAYED UP SHAH'S DENIAL THAT ASSIGNMENT OF RICHARD HELMS TO IRAN GAVE ANTI-IRANIAN ELEMENTS IN REGION AN EXCUSE TO ATTACK TEHRAN: "WHEN A PERSON WHO HAS BEEN WORKING IN THE CIA IS APPOINTED AMBASSADOR, HE WORKS JUST AS AN AMBASSADOR. IT DOES NOT PROVE ANYTHING. HE REPRESENTS US STATE DEPARTMENT HERE, NOT THE
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PAGE 02 TEHRAN 00087 061328Z

CIA."

MIKLOS

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